(c) These depict (i) the figure of a tiger and a deity in a niche flanked by demi-gods, (ii) the figure of an elephant and a horse with a circular niche at the top, and (iii) the figure of a *Kirtimukha* (lion face). The bas-reliefs stylistically belong to the Pallava period.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

(f) The exposed reliefs are maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India within the protected area of the Seashore Temple.

Proposal for development of Abhay Ghat

1886. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to develop a Memorial on Abhay Ghat in the memory of former Prime Minister of India late Shri Morarji Desai;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI ABIKA SONI): (a) to (c) A Memorial of Shri Morarji Desai named 'Abhay Ghat' has been constructed at the bank of river Sabarmati, District Kheda Gujarat. The construction work started in July, 1997 and was completed in March, 1999.

Promotion of local and regional musicians

1887. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any scheme for the promotion of regional and local musicians in the country;

(b) whether any financial assistance is given to the State of Goa any NGO in the State since the commencement of any scheme, if in operation;

(c) the quantum of financial assistance granted since the commencement of the scheme; and

(d) the details its essential features of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Following scheme are being implemented for promotion of performing arts and artistes (including musicians):—

(i) Scholarship to young artistes in the fields of Indian Classical Music, Indian Classical Dance, Theatre, Folk & Visuals Arts;

(ii) Fellowships to outstanding artistes in the field of performing, literary and visuals arts;

(iii) Financial assistance for research support to voluntary organizations engaged in cultural activities;

(iv) Financial assistance to Professional Groups Individuals for specified performing arts projects;